



**E-NEWSLETTER**

**<http://www.house.gov/simpson>**

**4/28/03**



The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard loads the casket of the first Air Force casualty during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Maj. Gregory L. Stone from the 124th Wing, Idaho Air National Guard, onto a caisson at a full honor funeral at Arlington National Cemetery on April 17, 2003. DoD photo by Senior Airman Jera T. Stubblefield, U.S. Air Force.

## Message from Mike

I am returning to Washington, D.C., on Monday after spending two weeks in Idaho for the Easter work period. While in Idaho I had the opportunity to meet with constituents in Boise, Burley, Jerome, Twin Falls, Idaho Falls and Pocatello. Congress returns to a full sheet of business, including the reauthorization of IDEA or the Improving Education Results for Children with Disabilities Act. I have heard from many Idahoans on this important federal legislation, including a meeting with teachers and parents in Boise over the break. May God continue to Bless America!

## What's Up this Week

*For the week of April 28 to May 2, 2003*

### Monday

The House is not in session

### Tuesday

Simpson will call into the Bureau of Land Management's National Fire Prevention Workshop at the Shilo Inn in Idaho Falls from 8:30 to 9 a.m. Simpson will discuss the National Fire Plan, its implementation and funding.

### Wednesday

The House will vote on a major education reauthorization bill: H.R. 1350, Improving Education Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003. The bill would improve education results for children with special needs by shifting the focus away from compliance with duplicative, burdensome, and confusing rules, and placing a renewed emphasis on ensuring that children with disabilities are learning.

### Thursday

Simpson will attend House Appropriations hearings for Labor, HHS, and Education Subcommittee at 2358 Rayburn. At 10:15 a.m. the committee will hear testimony from federal agencies tasked with worker protection like the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA).

### Friday

The House is not in session.

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## Weekly Website

***Worried about SARS? Here is the latest information from the Center for Disease Control***

**<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/index.htm>**

## Federal Facts

In 2002, the US had 19,306 total airports. 5,315 are public and 13,990 are private.

Source:<http://www.bts.gov/publications/nts/index.html>

## Idaho History Quiz

Who was Idaho's first Jewish Governor?

Be the first to respond to this e-mail and answer the question correctly and you could be featured in next week's newsletter.

## Quote of the Week

Every individual has a place to fill in the world and is important in some respect, whether he chooses to be so or not.

--Nathaniel Hawthorne

## Plan to Attend Military Service Academies

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Applications are now available for students planning to attend one of the nation's four service academies in 2004, according to Congressman Mike Simpson.

Students can request an application by calling Linda Culver at 208-734-7219 or going to Simpson's webpage at [www.house.gov/simpson](http://www.house.gov/simpson).

While the deadline to apply is October 31, 2003, Simpson says it's a good idea to plan early and collect the necessary requirements now.

"In the last month, the world has witnessed the command and competence of the US Military. These nominations give Idaho's finest students the opportunity to serve their country, receive an elite college education and get a jump-start on a good career. Idaho consistently ranks among the top states in the quality of its nominations and we'll be looking to continue that record."

Since the nomination process is competitive, candidates should apply to Vice President Dick Cheney, both U.S. Senators as well as with Congressman Simpson. Candidates must be at least 17 but not 23 years old by July 1, 2004, to apply for a nomination.

The candidates nominated by Simpson will be forwarded to each military academy, where the individual institutions will make final appointments.

The institutions are: The U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colo; the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, N.Y.; the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; and the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

For more information on the service academy nomination process, please call Culver at 208-734-7219.

# Iraqi Freedom Update

*This section gives you the latest war developments from the Department of Defense and perhaps items you won't get from the mainstream media.*

## A House of Cards.....

Coalition forces in Iraq are using a specially created deck of 55 playing cards to identify the “most wanted” members of Saddam Hussein’s regime.

Coalition officials have identified a list of 55 key regime leaders they intend to pursue, kill or capture. Command officials designed the cards displaying the names, faces and titles of the Iraqis to help soldiers and Marines in the field. Twelve of the 55 people have already been captured. Each deck has two Jokers, one showing Iraqi military ranks and the other, Arab tribal titles. Saddam Hussein is depicted on the Ace of Spades.

The list is also being distributed throughout Iraq in other forms, such as posters and handbills. Central Command notes that “The cards are not available for sale or distribution.” The Defense Department has no official affiliation with the Internet auction or other websites that reportedly have some version of these cards available for purchase.



## Quick Facts

Approximately 175,000 barrels of oil per day are being pumped to the refinery at Basra and into nearby power plants.

In northern Iraq, 60,000 barrels of oil per day will be pumped to the Baiji refinery by next week.

The Coalition is also operating a gas well, which is critical for the operation of turbines providing electricity to Baghdad.

## Troops to Teachers Program

Through the Troops to Teachers program, No Child Left Behind provides stipends to help eligible members of the Armed Forces obtain certification or licensing as highly qualified elementary or secondary teachers. No Child Left Behind also helps facilitate the employment of these individuals where they are needed most by making available \$10,000 bonuses for teaching in high-need public schools, including public charter schools.

## Humanitarian Efforts Continue

- According to the World Food Program, 1,607 trucks have transported more than 38,177 metric tons of food aid to northern Iraq through Turkey to date.
- The International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) has restored wastewater treatment service to more than 70,000 residents of Baghdad.